Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, Sergeant First Class Merrit E. Mendel's dedication to service has made him a valuable asset to this state and country; and,

Whereas, We have very few occasions to recognize these patriotic individuals for their service to this state and country; and,

Whereas, Sergeant First Class Mendel has devoted over 20 years of his life to the service of this state and country as a combat engineer, horizontal construction engineer, construction engineering supervisor, and motor sergeant including service in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom II and many state emergency activations; and,

Whereas, His loyalty and leadership have made him a cornerstone in the Armed Forces of this country; and,

Whereas, Sergeant First Class Mendel continues to give of himself; and,

Whereas, It is fitting and proper as Governor to commend Sergeant First Class Merrit E. Mendel for over 20 years of dedicated and outstanding service to this state and country:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim January 4, 2014, as

SERGEANT FIRST CLASS MERRIT E. MENDEL DAY

in South Dakota, and I join with his family and friends in wishing him well in his retirement and thanking him for his service to the state of South Dakota and to the United States of America.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Nineteenth Day of December in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Thirteen.

Dennis Daugaard

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Patricia K Miller Deputy

Jason M. Gant, Secretary of State